

Amendments to the Drawings:

Attachment: Replacement sheets have been attached for FIGS. 4-5 and 7-11. Each replacement sheet has been marked in the upper margin as a “Replacement Sheet.”

REMARKS

Original claims 1-29 have been canceled. New claims 30-51 have been added and are now pending in the application.

Objection to Drawings

In the office action mailed on October 5, 2005, the examiner objected to FIGS. 4-5 and 7-11 as not being legible. In a telephone conversation with the examiner on February 28, 2006, the examiner agreed to accept replacement copies of FIGS. 4-5 and 7-11 that are first-generation printouts in case the copies the examiner received originally were inferior copies of copies. In the conversation with the examiner, it appeared that the examiner might have received such inferior copies of the screen shots. Replacement drawing sheets for FIGS. 4-5 and 7-11 have been attached hereto as an appendix. If the examiner finds the replacement sheets to be unacceptable, the Applicant will provide improved drawings in response to a subsequent office action.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102, 103, and 112

The examiner's rejections of claims 1-29 have been mooted by the cancellation of those claims.

Arguments for New Claims 30-51

New independent claims 30, 36, 42, and 46-51 each contain limitations not taught in any of the cited references, either separately or in combination. Therefore, the Applicant believes these claims to be allowable. Since each of the remaining new claims depends from one of these allowable claims, they too are believed to be allowable. No new matter has been added to the application. Citation of the support for and the bases for the allowability of the new claims follows.

New claim 30: This claim is directed to a method for associating theme, act, and scene information with a portion of a document and saving the portion of the document and its associated theme, act, and scene in a database. New method claim 30 recites the step of “associating each of a theme, an act, and a scene with [a] portion of [a] document, the theme being a topic for a presentation, the act relating to the ordering of information in the presentation, the scene relating to a specific presentation point in the presentation, each of the theme, act, and scene including textual information that is separate from the portion of the document.” Story-matrix elements such as theme, act, and scene are described in paragraph [0037] of the specification. The recited characterizations of the terms “theme,” “act,” and “scene” are supported in paragraph [0049] of the specification. FIG. 5 and the associated description in paragraphs [0041]-[0043] of the specification support the limitation that each of the theme, act, and scene includes textual information that is separate from the document portion (e.g., a slide from a slide presentation) to which it pertains. That is, the theme, act, or scene includes text that is not the document portion itself or text contained within the document portion.

The recited step in claim 30 of storing the portion of the document and its associated theme, act, and scene in a database is supported by, e.g., paragraph [0030] of the specification and in FIG. 1.

The above limitations concerning story matrix elements are not taught in any of the cited references, either separately or in combination. Therefore, new claim 30 is allowable.

New claim 31: This claim, which depends from new claim 30, recites an embodiment in which “the portion of the document” is a page of the document. This claim is supported by, e.g., paragraphs [0008], [0053], and [0067] of the specification.

New claim 32: This claim, which depends from new claim 30, recites an embodiment in which “the portion of the document” is a presentation slide. This claim is supported by, e.g., paragraphs [0008]-[0009] and [0030] of the specification and FIGS. 5, 8, 9, and 10.

New claims 33-35: These claims, which depend from new claim 30, recite, respectively, embodiments in which a plurality of themes, acts, and scenes, are associated with the portion of the document and stored in the database. These claims are supported by FIG. 5 and the associated description in paragraphs [0041]-[0043] of the specification.

New claim 36: This claim is directed to a method for identifying document portions having associated theme, act, and scene information and generating a new presentation that includes the identified document portions. Support for the steps of selecting and identifying can be found in FIGS. 6, 8, and 9 and in paragraphs [0044]-[0046] and [0048]-[0050] of the specification. The step of generating of a new presentation is supported by, e.g., paragraphs [0044] and [0048] of the specification and FIG 6.

The limitations of claim 36 concerning the story matrix elements (theme, act, and scene) are not taught in any of the cited references, either separately or in combination. Therefore, new claim 36 is allowable.

New claims 37 and 38: These claims, which depend from new claim 36, are supported in a manner analogous to new claims 31 and 32, discussed above.

New claims 39-41: These claims, which depend from new claim 36, are supported by FIG. 8 and paragraph [0048] of the specification, which teach using a plurality of themes, acts, and/or scenes to select portions of documents (e.g., slides) for inclusion in a presentation. Note the instructions “Select Theme(s)” and “Select Scenes(s)” in FIG. 8 and that the highlighted

scenes shown in act/scene selection window 825 are subordinate to a plurality of different acts such as “Solutions” and “Action Steps.”

New claim 42: This claim is directed to a method for ensuring that a new presentation conforms to a set of formatting attributes as specified by a design template. Support for this claim is found, e.g., in FIG. 12 and paragraphs [0053]-[0057] of the specification. Note that this claim is similar to a combination of the limitations of now-canceled claims 18 and 19, but slide orientation (e.g., portrait or landscape) has been omitted from the recited formatting attributes. The remaining slide orientation attributes recited in new claim 42 are not taught in any of the cited references. Further, none of the cited references teaches editing the slides of a slide show to conform to a template defining the design attributes recited in new claim 42. Therefore, new claim 42 is allowable.

New claim 43: This claim, which depends from claim 42, recites an embodiment in which selected slides are audited for format before being imported from a database. This claim is supported by FIG. 4 (see audit selection box 440) and paragraph [0040] of the specification.

New claims 44 and 45: These claims, which depend from new claim 42, recite, respectively, automatic and manual editing of slides to conform to the selected design template. These claims are supported by paragraph [0057] of the specification.

New claim 46: This system claim corresponds to the method of new claim 30. It is supported by the same portions of the drawings and specification as cited above in connection with new claim 30, and the same arguments for allowability apply.

New claim 47: This system claim corresponds to the method of new claim 36. It is supported by the same portions of the drawings and specification as cited above in connection with new claim 36, and the same arguments for allowability apply.

New claim 48: This system claim corresponds to the method of new claim 42. It is supported by the same portions of the drawings and specification as cited above in connection with new claim 42 (and by FIG. 13 and paragraphs [0058]-[0060] of the specification), and the same arguments for allowability apply.

New claim 49: This computer-readable-storage-medium claim corresponds to the method of new claim 30. It is supported by the same portions of the drawings and specification as cited above in connection with new claim 30 (and also by paragraph [0060] of the specification), and the same arguments for allowability apply.

New claim 50: This computer-readable-storage-medium claim corresponds to the method of new claim 36. It is supported by the same portions of the drawings and specification as cited above in connection with new claim 36 (and also by paragraph [0060] of the specification), and the same arguments for allowability apply.

New claim 51: This computer-readable-storage-medium claim corresponds to the method of new claim 42. It is supported by the same portions of the drawings and specification as cited above in connection with new claim 42 (and also by paragraph [0060] of the specification), and the same arguments for allowability apply.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that no further impediments exist to the allowance of this application and, therefore, solicit an indication of allowability. However, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned if any question or comments arise.

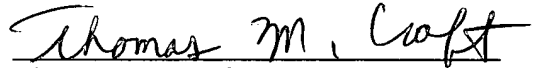
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16, 1.17, and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1283.

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